was introduced by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from 1-4-1989 and a total of 618216 villages in the country were allocated amongst various branches of commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks for preparation of village profiles and service area plans. No separate record of number of villages surveyed by nationalised banks are available with RBI. The significant feature in Service Area Approach is the emphasis placed on the credit planning by bank branches at the grass root level. At periodical intervals, the progress of the branch credit plan for the villages covered as also the block credit plan is reviewed by the block level bankers committee. A review of the working of the above committees by RBI has revealed that such meetings are useful. It may not be correct to say that the service area approach has become redundant.

Committee on Tax Collection

1237. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms and guidelines for the 12 member committee set up to go into the issue of tax collection as appearing in the news item in the National Herald of the 25th August; and

(b) what are the names of the members of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) There is no such 12 member committee appointed by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase of Jute by Companies

1238. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of jute purchased by various agencies during the current year; and

(b) what is the lowest price on which jute has been purchased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Jute Corporation of India Ltd., has, so far, purchased 500 quintals of raw jute and mesta during the current jute year at minimum support prices at Rs. 380 per quintal for W5 variety of jute and Rs. 347.50 per quintal for M5 variety of Mesta in Saharsa and Madhepura districts of North Bihar.

देश में मंदिरों का रख-रखाव

1239. **मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने गत तीन वर्षों तथा चालू वर्ष के दौरान देश में मंदिरों के रख-रखाव के लिए कोई धन राशि उपलब्ध कराई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा क्या है तथा प्रत्येक मंदिर को अलग से कितनी-कितनी राशि उपलब्ध कराई गई है;

(ग) किन-किन कारणों तथा परिस्थितियों के अन्तर्गत उन्हें यह धनराशि प्रदान की गई है;

(घ) क्या सरकार इस नीति पर पुनर्विचार कर रही है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और विधि, न्याय तथा कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रंगराजन कुमारमंगलम्): (क) से (ग) भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (भा०पु०सर्वे०) राष्ट्रीय महत्व के प्राचीन स्मारकों, स्थलों और अवशेषों की सुरक्षा, संरक्षण और परिरक्षण उनके विशिष्ट पुरातत्वीय, ऐति-